



Bethesda realtor Zeinolabedin Guerami chats with Samineh Baghcheban Pirnazar, a pioneer of Iranian deaf education, and Dr. Mahnaz Afkhamie, director of the Foundation for Iranian Studies in Bethesda, Md, prior to Pirnazar's lecture at Gallaudet Nov. 4.

## Deaf education in Iran discussed

In 1925, Samineh Baghcheban Pirnazar's father was called a "charlatan" and accused of sacrilege when three deaf students in his regular classroom in Iran demonstrated their high academic skill.

But today, "I can say without hesitation that an infrastructure for the education and promotion of the welfare of the deaf is permanently in place in Iran," Pirnazar, former principal of the Baghcheban Institute for the Deaf in Teheran, said at a Nov. 4 lecture at Gallaudet, "Deaf Education in Iran: History and Challenges for the Future."

Pirnazar, whom Gallaudet President I. King Jordan called a pioneer, served as principal of the Baghcheban Institute for the Deaf from 1954-1980, when she left Iran because of the Islamic fundamentalist revolution there. She also founded and served as director of several deafness-related organizations in Iran. In the summer of 1993, she returned briefly to the Baghcheban Institute and schools for deaf students throughout Iran and participated in meetings with education officials.

"I can only say that the present agenda is vast and impressive," she said, although she added that she didn't have time to examine the substance of the various programs.

As Pirnazar told the history of deaf education in Iran, it was clear that she and her father, Jabbar Baghcheban, both played primary roles in establishing this infrastructure.

But in the early part of the 20th century, "To claim such a miracle as Baghcheban had demonstrated was to claim prophecy and was therefore sacrilegious," Pirnazar said. Baghcheban continued to meet great hostility, opposition, and persecution because of his efforts to educate deaf children and had to relocate his family three times in seven years, said Pirnazar.

Finally, he managed to establish a one-room school for deaf children in Teheran in 1933.

By the time Baghcheban died in 1966, this school was the Baghcheban Institute and had an enrollment of 290 children from preschool through junior high and a teacher training program. By the mid-1970s, the institute incorporated five schools ranging from preschool through high school, teacher and technician training programs, and a speech and hearing clinic. In addition, the Society for the Protection of Deaf Children, which Baghcheban established in 1943, met its goals of establishing a strong teacher training center and providing special schools for deaf children throughout the country.

In 1977, Iran was chosen as the center for teacher training in the region for people from the Middle East and Africa. The center trained eight teachers but the program was discontinued with the onset of the Iranian revolution.

Pirnazar emphasized the need for a Middle East regional center for teacher training and pointed out the difficulties of sending teachers from developing countries to train in developed countries. "For one thing, the social and economic differences between the developing world and the industrialized countries are too great," she said. "Secondly, young teachers tend to become overwhelmed by the progress of the developed world, losing hope in their own countries. Often the luxuries of the West prevent them from returning to their own countries."

In 1971, Pirnazar organized and directed the Iranian National Organization for the Welfare of the Deaf. Its purpose is to address the needs of deaf children from ages 1 to 6, older than 13, and

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## Northwest Campus administrators reflect on the school's first decade

A lot can happen in a decade, especially to a brand new school that has seen its goals and programs change over the years to meet the needs of a diverse student population.

When the Northwest Campus commemorates its first 10 years of operation this Thursday, it will be celebrating more than its success in preparing students to go to college or to enter the job market. It also will celebrate the development of a tightly bonded campus community that continues to work harmoniously year after year.

"We're celebrating 10 years of growing, learning, changing, and getting better—and camaraderie, there's a lot of that," said Dr. Ann Davidson, who has served as the dean of the School of Preparatory Studies since the program began at the Northwest Campus in 1983.

Assistant Dean Kenneth Epstein, who also has held his position since the school opened, added "It's a time to think back, and tell stories, and be proud of ourselves for what we've accomplished."

When the school opened its doors

to the first class of 300 preps, "the Northwest Campus was a really different program in many ways from what it is today," said Dr. Epstein. He explained that the School of Preparatory Studies was set up by Gallaudet specifically to accommodate what demographers anticipated would be a burgeoning population of school-age deaf children stemming from the rubella outbreak of the early 1960s.

"I remember discussions (by University administrators) about buying houses on Florida Avenue or building a new dorm on Kendall Green to house students from the 'rubella bulge,'" recalled Epstein.

Instead, the University was granted by Congress the former Marjorie Webster Junior College for women, which had been vacant for several years, and renovated it for the School of Preparatory Studies. The action was greeted with mixed emotions by most of the homeowners of the surrounding residential neighborhood, but this changed as the president of Gallaudet and others met with neighbors to hear their concerns, said Davidson.

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## Festivities set at Northwest Campus

The Northwest Campus community is gearing up for a busy celebration Nov. 18 in recognition of its first decade.

Current and former faculty, staff, and students in the School of Preparatory Studies (SPS), the English Language Institute (ELI), and the Department of Technical Studies (DOTS) have received invitations to attend a reception and participate in various events marking the occasion, and were to have RSVP'd by last week.

"The most exciting thing for us is that we have stayed on the same campus for 10 years," said Madaleine Davis-Shelton, chair of "Celebrating Diversity—Tenth Anniversary" and acting coordinator of the Counseling and Development Center for the Northwest Campus.

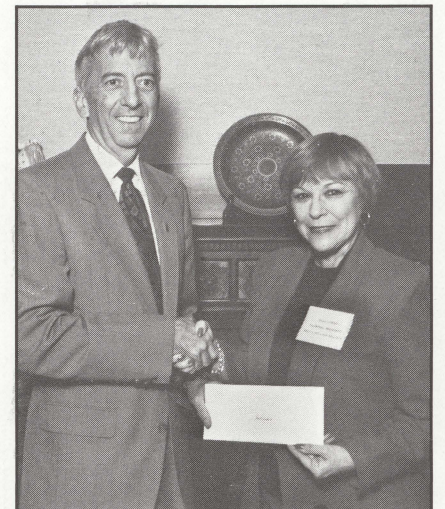
Participants will have a chance to mingle at the afternoon reception from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Main Hall lounge, where School of Preparatory Studies Dean Ann Davidson will extend a welcome. The reception will be followed by a buffet dinner at the cafeteria from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Entertainment will be provided from 8 to 10 p.m. in the Main Hall gymnasium. Ken Glickman, a well-known deaf entertainer, will give a performance, and students will act out skits. Former SPS students who are still attending Gallaudet as under-

graduates will speak about their experiences, Davis-Shelton said.

VIPs also will be on hand to say a few words about the occasion. Included will be Dr. Howard Busby, vice president for Academic Support and Student Development, who started at Northwest Campus as assistant dean for Student Affairs.

Davis-Shelton said the Northwest Campus community may plan more related events during the school year.



Joan Lowry, national president of the Delta Zeta Foundation, gives President Jordan a check for more than \$14,000 for two scholarship funds in the sorority's name.





KDES Principal Nancy Shook (right) recognizes Theresa Tinch, administrative secretary of Diagnostic and Support Services, for 25 years of service to the University.

## Announcements

Gallaudet employees have until Nov. 24 to sign up, if they choose, for the Flexible Premium Plan for 1994, a benefit that may result in an increase in net pay. Those who are in the plan must renew their enrollment. To enroll, contact the Payroll Office, College Hall, Room 114. For more information, call x5687.

The Washington Bullets will host "Gallaudet Day" on Dec. 4 when they take on the Portland Trailblazers at 7:30 p.m. at the USAir Arena. Upper-level tickets for the game will be half price (\$11) for Gallaudet faculty, staff, students, and anyone else who is connected to the deaf community. Tickets are subject to availability. To receive the discount, tickets must be reserved by Nov. 21 from the University's Public Relations Office. Checks must be made payable to the Washington Bullets. Tickets can also be purchased by American Express, Visa, Discover, or MasterCard credit cards.

Students are encouraged to attend an open house hosted by the Department of TV, Film, and Photography in coordination with the Center for Career Programs on Nov. 17 from noon to 2 p.m. in the Merrill Learning Center, Room LN-30 (Studio D) for possible em-

ployers and interns in the area of video and photography. A photo demonstration will be held from 12:15-12:45 p.m. and a TV production demonstration will take place from 1-1:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

MSSD's Performing Arts Program's 13th Fall Dance Concert will be Nov. 18-20 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 19 at 10:30 a.m. Tickets are \$7/adults, \$5/students and senior citizens. For tickets or more information, call x5466.

## Deaf education in Iran improves

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deaf adults; the Department of Special Education is responsible for deaf children ages 6 to 13.

Pirnazar, who is hearing, emphasized "that it is time that any decisions regarding the education and welfare of the deaf in Iran should be arrived at through the active participation of the deaf community itself."

The School of Education and Human Services co-sponsored the lecture and reception with the Foundation for Iranian Studies in Bethesda, Md. Dr. Fatemeh Olia, an associate professor in the Department of Educational Technology who is from Iran, was instrumental in arranging the event, which attracted 80 members of the greater Washington Iranian and Gallaudet communities.

## Search opens for special assistant

Gallaudet University recently began its search for a new special assistant to the president for diversity and community relations.

The special assistant will be a member of the President's Council and will serve as chief advisor on diversity and community relations activities and issues. He or she will administer all aspects of the University's equal employment opportunity/affirmative action programs and provide for the integration of diversity into the curriculum and campus life.

This individual also will direct community relations programs to enhance Gallaudet's relationship with the businesses, residents, and community groups in the surrounding neighborhood, serve as liaison with local government agencies and community organizations, and represent Gallaudet at public and private meetings and hearings.

## NWC has progressed, say administrators

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The school has maintained a harmonious relationship with the neighborhood over the years, as evidenced by the annual summer "Pig Out," a day of picnicking and festivities that is well attended by neighbors and the campus community.

"I think there was a real expectation that in about three years, the rubella bulge would be gone and the crisis would be over," said Epstein. "Instead, it was more prolonged, and at the same time, the University was committed to keeping its enrollment high." The Northwest Campus programs expanded to include the Associate of Applied Science degree program in Office Systems and the English Language Institute.

But there were other changes as well, notably in the approach that the Northwest Campus took in educating its students. "We started out with a real bare bones program and a bare bones curriculum," said Epstein. Today, although the academic curriculum hasn't changed a great deal, the program also focuses on helping students develop learning skills. In the school's early years, there was no tutoring center, no academic advising center, and no computers to assist students, he said.

"We are better at what we do in assisting students to help them succeed," said Davidson. One of the best examples, both Davidson and Epstein agree, is the "Think" program, where faculty from each department decide on the thinking skills that they feel should be reinforced in all classes, regardless of the subject.

There is also the Mentoring Program, where faculty and staff volunteer their time to help students with their studies, and the Unique Tutoring Program, which helps students with learning disabilities.

Until the school started to test students for learning disabilities and provide accommodation for them in the mid-1980s, very few people seriously considered that learning disabilities would be a problem for Gallaudet students, said Epstein. Today, students with learning disabilities from both Kendall Green and the Northwest Campus are referred to the Northwest Campus' Diagnostic and Support Services Program.

Davidson and Epstein are proud of the fact that although the Northwest Campus' organizational chart shows that it has three times as many programs as it

did when it began, it actually has far fewer employees, because faculty and staff have been trained to take on multiple tasks.

"We feel that school ought to be a lot more than a place to learn reading, writing, and arithmetic," said Epstein. "And the challenge, as I see it, is to teach students things that make school a richer, fuller experience so they can think on their feet and succeed in whatever they do next."

As an administrative team, Davidson and Epstein can recall far more entertaining stories about life at the Northwest Campus over the past decade than there is space to print here. And because, by their estimates, at least half of the campus' employees today have worked there since the beginning, there's no doubt that at the 10th anniversary celebration, the phrase "Remember the time ..." will be repeated often.

## Classified Ads

**Classified ads** are printed for Gallaudet faculty and staff. Ads must be submitted in writing in person or by mail to *On the Green*, MSSD, Room G-37. Off-campus phone numbers must include an area code and whether the number is voice or TTY. In compliance with the Education of the Deaf Act of 1992, as amended, payment of \$1 per ad per printing must accompany each ad. The deadline for submitting ads is Friday, 10 days before the desired publication. Because of the Thanksgiving holiday, *On the Green* will not be published Nov. 29. Ads received Nov. 15-23 will be published Dec. 6.

**FOR RENT:** Townhouse in Bowie/Mitchellville, Md., 3-BR, 2 baths, finished basement, all amenities, landscaped, new paint/carpet, \$950/mo., avail. mid-Jan. Call S. Gallagher, x5585 days or (301) 390-4834 (V/TTY) eves., or E-mail SENECESSARY.

**FOR RENT:** 3-story end-unit townhouse in North Potomac, Md., near MARC train and Rockville and Shady Grove Metro stations, 2 large BRs, 2 1/2 baths, W/D, cable, no pets, avail. Dec. 1. Call x5669 or E-mail DKAMMONS.

**FOR SALE:** Pine sofa bed, \$300; matching love seat w/footrests, \$200; folding table, \$35/BO; all good cond. Pine end table, \$50; Ikea pine entertainment center w/black light, \$200; both exc. cond. Call Brenda, (202) 675-8931 (TTY), or E-mail BCURTIS.

**RENT/SALE OPTION:** 1-BR condo w/pantry and huge walk-in closet, W/D, Rockville, Md., near Grosvenor and White Flint Metro stations, \$480/mo. Call Vivian, (301) 770-1562 (V) eves./weekends.

**WANTED:** Roommate for condo, prefer professional woman, no pets or smoking. Call (301) 552-0279 (TTY), or E-mail SMCLENNON.

**FOR SALE:** '88 Hyundai Excel GL, blue, 3-door, AC, auto, radio, no rust, 33,400 mi., like new, original owner, \$2,900. Call (301) 890-5134 (TTY) eves.

**FOR SALE:** Matching sofa and chair, navy blue, good cond., \$150/BO; regulation foosball table, almost new, \$250/BO. Call Wendy, x5245, or E-mail WLMONSEN.

## Job Openings

**Some of the advertised positions may already be filled.** The list below includes only new staff and faculty openings and does not represent all jobs available. To get a recorded message describing the complete list, call x5358 (V) or x5359 (TTY).

ACADEMIC ADVISOR: Academic Advising RESIDENCE EDUCATION ASSISTANT: MSSD Student Life

ORDER PROCESSOR: Gallaudet University Press INSTRUCTOR/ASSISTANT PROFESSOR: Communication Arts Department

INSTRUCTOR, SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM: MSSD

INSTRUCTOR, ENGLISH AS SECOND LANGUAGE: MSSD

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